

Brownsville as the city's honored guest during the upcoming Mr. Amigo celebration. During his stay on the border, he will make personal appearances in parades and other festival events. Official "welcome" receptions will be staged by organizations in Cameron County, Texas, and the cities of Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico.

I ask my colleagues to join me in extending congratulations to Mr. Alberto Vazquez for being honored with this special award.

**THE WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION
OF NEW JERSEY: 125 YEARS OF
HONORING THE MEMORY OF
GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON
AND THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR
IN NEW JERSEY**

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and pay tribute to the Washington Association of New Jersey. As the keepers of the Ford Mansion, also known as Washington's Headquarters, and the guardians of Morristown National Historical Park, the support of the Washington Association and its members has been extraordinary. This year, the Association celebrates its 125th year of service to honoring the memory of George Washington and preserving Washington's Headquarters and the park's historical sites for future generations.

The Ford Mansion, built in Morristown between 1772–74, was the home of Colonel Jacob Ford, Jr., a landowner, iron manufacturer and ardent patriot of Morris County. As Colonel of the Eastern Battalion of New Jersey's militia forces, Jacob Ford participated in the first Battle of Springfield. However, shortly thereafter, he fell ill with pneumonia and died on January 10, 1777. Even so, Colonel Ford's widow, Theodosia, who was left with five children, offered the mansion to General George Washington to use as his headquarters during the very harsh winters of 1777 and 1779–80 in New Jersey. Unlike the areas of New Jersey nearer to New York City, Morristown had fewer loyalists and its surrounding hills provided natural defenses for a winter refuge where the next summer campaign could be planned. In addition, the Continental Army and various militias could be maneuvered quickly to either Manhattan or Philadelphia from their primitive and difficult encampment at Jockey Hollow.

In this grand home, Washington, along with his aide-de-camp Alexander Hamilton, would lay out the strategy for much of the Revolution's greatest campaigns. At a tall secretary desk, which still graces the mansion, Washington penned some of the most important letters of the Revolution. Some of the greatest heroes of the war, including the Marquis de Lafayette, General Schuyler, General Greene, General Knox, and even the infamous traitor General Benedict Arnold, walked through the Ford Mansion's front door and graced Martha Washington's wartime dining room with their conversations about victory, defeat and the battles yet to come. It has been said that under the Ford Mansion's roof have been gathered more figures known to the military

history of our Revolution than any other house in America. It is no wonder that Morristown is considered the Military Capital of the Revolution.

Nearly a century later, the Washington Association of New Jersey was founded in Morristown in June of 1873, in order to save the Ford Mansion as it was offered for sale by the heirs of Colonel Ford's grandson, the Honorable Henry Ford. Four New Jersey gentlemen, former Governor Theodore F. Randolph, William Van Vleck Lidgerwood of Morristown, and George A. Halsey and General Norris Halsted of Newark, were responsible for leading this great effort. The Association was chartered by an act of the New Jersey State Legislature on March 20, 1874 as a stock-granting corporation in New Jersey.

The Association maintained the Ford Mansion in Morristown until 1933, and in the process accumulated a remarkable collection of Revolutionary War memorabilia. Through the influence of the Washington Association, Mayor Clyde Potts of Morristown and Mr. Lloyd Waddell Smith, member and sometime president of the Association, the Ford Mansion was donated to the Federal government on March 2, 1933, creating Morristown National Historic Park, the nation's first historic park. Also included in the park were Fort Mifflin in Morristown and certain parcels of land in Jockey Hollow where the troops were encamped during the horrible winter of 1779–80.

Today, the Washington Association of New Jersey supports Morristown National Historic Park by acquiring rare books and manuscripts pertaining to the Revolution or George Washington, contributing financially to the park and, by Federal statute, is the official consultant to the National Park Service in Morristown. The Association also acts as an advocate for the park when the property is threatened by any inappropriate development.

In 1998–99, the Washington Association of New Jersey will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of its foundation and incorporation. Planned activities include updating and reprinting "A Certain Splendid House" (the history of the Ford Mansion), publication of a scholarly catalog on "War Comes to Morristown", the new, permanent exhibit at Washington's Headquarters Museum, a lecture series which will bring distinguished scholars into Morristown, and the eventual expansion of Washington's Headquarters Museum so that more of the 400,000 items in the collections at Morristown can be properly exhibited.

Although the mansion is now part of a National Historic Park, the Association's work is appreciated most by the residents of Morris County. Washington's Headquarters, as it is called by most, is the Town of Morristown's common denominator. It is what the people of Morristown identify themselves with, what they remember most when they leave and the first thing they want to see when they return. It is our public treasure and the Washington Association of New Jersey is its entrusted guardian.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me as I salute the Washington Association of New Jersey on the occasion of their 125th anniversary and for their great work in preserving our nation's first National Historic Park, the memory of our nation's greatest citizen and Morristown's most famous and dearest house.

**AGRICULTURE EXPORTS AND
TRADE AGREEMENT**

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a concurrent resolution regarding trade between the U.S. and the European Union. Recent news reports indicate that the Administration may be considering concluding a trade agreement with the EU that would not include agriculture. Given the difficulties that American agricultural exports face in gaining access to the EU market, it is unthinkable that any cross-sector agreement with the EU would exclude agriculture. This resolution calls on the Administration to actively pursue eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers imposed by the EU on U.S. agricultural exports. This resolution also cautions the Administration against engaging in trade negotiations that might undermine the ability of the United States to have a level playing field for American producers.

American agriculture is more than twice as reliant on exports as the overall economy, and thus the American farmer is hurt the most by unfair barriers to market access. This is especially true with the European Union, where barriers to U.S. agriculture products remains the most vexing problem in our commercial relationship. The EU has shown relatively little progress in liberalizing trade in agriculture between our two markets. The EU has failed to comply with a WTO ruling which overturned an EU ban on hormone-treated beef from the U.S. The EU has failed to implement the bilateral agreement on veterinary equivalence standards and EU subsidies continue to distort market prices. U.S. farmers are the most efficient and productive in the world and they deserve our every effort to pry open foreign markets and tear down unfair barriers to market access.

Mr. Speaker, if U.S. agriculture exports are to continue growing at the present rate, the U.S. government needs to be more aggressive in eliminating barriers to trade around the world. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, last week on February 4th during Roll Call Vote No. 7, on H.J. Res. 107, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted Yes.

I ask unanimous consent that the record reflect this.

**MEL McLEAN: EXAMPLE OF THE
AMERICAN DREAM**

HON. FRANK RIGGS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I call the attention of my colleagues to Mel McLean of Humboldt